



California Department of Public Health, Sexually Transmitted Diseases Control Branch (CDPH-STDCB)

Mpox Community-Based Organization (CBO) Grant Guidelines

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BACKGROUND

In 2022, the United States and California experienced an outbreak of mpox (formerly known as monkeypox). To date, California has reported over 5900 cases of mpox and 257 hospitalizations. Most of the reported infections in California have been in gay, bisexual, and or other men who have sex with men. Although the outbreak has slowed, [mpox cases are still occurring in California](#) and there is a risk of resurgence. The JYNNEOS vaccine has been shown to reduce the risk of severe illness and hospitalization, and additional efforts are needed to vaccinate populations most at risk for mpox, particularly those disproportionately impacted by mpox. Testing for mpox has also decreased but is necessary to detect additional cases and provide education and/or treatment to persons diagnosed to prevent further transmission.

OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Mpox Community-Based Organization (CBO) Grant is to fund eligible CBOs for mpox vaccine administration, vaccine outreach/education, and testing activities to communities at-risk for mpox. Groups most at-risk for mpox include gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM); trans and non-binary persons; people with HIV or recent history of a sexually transmitted infection (STI); Black/African American and Hispanic/Latinx communities.

A CBO is defined as a public or private nonprofit organization that provides services to individuals in the community. Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) and pharmacies are considered a CBO as long as they are a nonprofit entity. A nonprofit entity is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. There is \$2.047 million available to fund CBOs. Applications will be scored based on population served, CBO size, and the description of outreach/education activities.

The grant can cover vaccine outreach/education efforts and uncompensated vaccine and testing administration expenses incurred between January 1, 2024, and June 30, 2024.

The application is due Tuesday, November 28, 2023 by 11:59 P.M. PT.

GRANT DESCRIPTION

Eligible CBOs may apply for a grant for mpox vaccine outreach/education efforts and uncompensated vaccine and testing administration expenses incurred from January 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024.

Funding:

All recipients of the grant will receive a base award of \$40,000.

Supplemental Funding

Supplemental funding award of an additional \$10,000 will be available to CBOs that serve patient populations that are >50% uninsured and/or are Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Supplemental funding award of an additional \$5,000 will be available to CBOs that serve patient populations that are >50% Black/African American and/or Latinx populations.

Supplemental funding award of an additional \$5,000 will be available to CBOs that serve populations with >50% of people living with HIV.

Funding Allocation	Amount*
Base Funding	\$40,000
Supplemental funding if >50% CBO population served are:	
- Uninsured and/or Medi-Cal Beneficiaries	\$10,000
- Black/African American and/or Latinx/Hispanic	\$5,000
- People with HIV	\$5,000

Invoice payments will be mailed to awardees approximately 45 to 60 days after the required information is submitted and verified.

Note: Sites must have a verifiable California Immunization Registry (CAIR) Org Code, a unique Immunization Information System [IIS] ID, within 15 days of the date of their awardee letter. Sites will be ineligible for payment until they have a verifiable code.

A final report on outreach/education activities, number of vaccines and tests administered, and test positivity will be required to be submitted.

ELIGIBILITY

- + Community Based Organizations (CBOs) located in California are eligible to apply.
 - A CBO is a public or private nonprofit organization that provides services to individuals in the community.
 - Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) and pharmacies that are nonprofit are eligible.
 - A nonprofit entity is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.
 - Entity is registered and has a status of good standing with the California Secretary of State (<https://bizfileonline.sos.ca.gov/search/business>).
 - The CBO must:
 - Be in existence for a minimum of 3 years.
 - Have the infrastructure to accept, store, and administer the JYNNEOS vaccine.
 - Enter administered doses into the California Immunization Registry (CAIR).
 - See [Mpx Requirements at a Glance \(eziz.org\)](https://eziz.org).
 - Onboard and have a valid CAIR Org Code (i.e., unique Immunization Information System [IIS] ID) verifiable in CAIR within 15 days of awardee letter and prior to payment from the state.
 - For CBOs needing to onboard to CAIR please see [California Immunization Registry Information Website](#)
 - Have the ability to track expenditures with detail and promptly invoice. The applicant must keep and store expenditure records for a minimum of 3 years for State audits and reviews.
 - **The CBO must have a CAIR Org Code, a California Immunization Registry unique Immunization Information System [IIS] ID, within 15 days of the date of their awardee letter**
 - The following entities are **not** eligible:
 - Hospitals, local health departments, and school districts

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- + All required fields must be filled out.
- + The organization must have a valid Org Code (i.e., unique Immunization Information system [IIS] ID) verifiable in CAIR OR plans to register and onboard with CAIR (within 15 days of awardee letter) and myCAVax. Organizations with multiple sites must submit ALL Org Codes for all sites planned to be funded through this grant.
 - All sites must have a verifiable CAIR ID within 15 days of awardee letter.
 - Please see [California Immunization Registry Information Website](#) to learn how to sign up for CAIR and <https://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-1444.pdf> to have an account created in myCAVax, which is a platform that allows providers to order JYNNEOS vaccine from the local health department.
 - If no previous vaccines were administered prior to submitting an application, the organization must delineate in the application how they plan to accept, store, and administer the JYNNEOS vaccine.
- + Applicants must submit all required items and cannot make changes after submitting.
- + Incomplete applications are considered ineligible.
- + Awardees will be contacted by CDPH for further information.
- + Employer Identification Number (EIN) from IRS indicating nonprofit status.

ALLOWABLE EXPENSES

Allowable expenses must be for activities consistent with the purpose of the grant, and may include:

- + Staffing: Funds may be used to support personnel that are directly involved in administering the mpox vaccine or testing.
- + Outreach: Funds may be used for staffing to support outreach/education to the community to encourage awareness and access to mpox vaccination and testing.
- + Administrative Overhead: Funds may be used for administrative costs including expenditures for general items that support the operational needs of the organization in administering, supplying, or promoting mpox vaccine/testing (e.g., office supplies, rent, travel, printing)
- + Vaccination-related expenses (e.g., vaccine storage units, digital data loggers, staff training, IT-related modification to electronic health records)
- + Mpox testing supplies (e.g., tests, shipping of specimens to lab for processing)
- + Personal protective equipment (e.g., masks, gloves, wipes, and gowns)
- + STI prevention supplies (e.g., condoms, lubricant, oral barriers)
- + Client education materials

Note: This is not an exhaustive list. All spending proposals must be submitted to and approved by CDPH-STDCB prior to purchase and implementation.

UNALLOWABLE EXPENSES

- + Stuff We All Get (SWAG) - The purchase of free promotional items for health promotion events such as pens, mugs, t-shirts, posters, key chains, or bumper stickers. This provision is in accordance with the California State Constitution, Article 16, section 6, which prohibits any gifting of public funds.
- + Individual prizes or high value incentives (e.g., iPads, iPhones) for health promotion competitions.
- + Cash incentives paid to an individual.
- + Scholarships paid to an individual or a school on behalf of an individual.
- + Food (e.g., sponsored lunch or dinner at provider education sessions, brown bag lunches, buffets at screening events).
- + Construction, renovation, improvement, or repair of property.
- + The purchase of alcohol, tobacco, or cannabis.

Note: This is not an exhaustive list. All spending proposals must be submitted to and approved by the CDPH-STDCB prior to purchase and implementation.

DELIVERABLES

Grantee shall not begin any work until the grant agreement has been signed and executed. CDPH-STDCB expects the grantees will begin performance on or about January 1, 2024. Grant agreements will expire June 30, 2024.

Grantees must submit a complete budget by the established deadline stated in the Award Letter to the grant manager prior to activities being conducted. Activities being conducted without prior budget approval may not be eligible for reimbursement payment.

All sites must have a verifiable CAIR ID within 15 days of awardee letter.

- Please see [California Immunization Registry Information Website](#) to learn how to sign up for CAIR and <https://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-1444.pdf>
- Create an account in myCAVax.

A final report on outreach/education activities, vaccines and tests administered will be required to be submitted at the end of this grant period.

- Outreach/education: A description of outreach/education activities, including successful strategies, challenges encountered, and lessons learned
- Vaccination Data: All funded CBOs will be required to submit vaccination data via CAIR.
- Testing Data: All CBOs will be required to submit total number of mpox tests and number positive tests performed during this funding period.

FALSE STATEMENTS OR CLAIMS

Applicants understand that knowingly submitting or benefitting from false information will void this application and may be considered fraud, misrepresentation and/or breach of the original agreement and that doing so may subject the applicant to civil and/or criminal penalties under the California False Claims Act and any other relevant state or federal regulations.

REVIEW & SELECTION PROCESS

There is \$2.047 million available. If requests for funding exceed the \$2.047 million amount, funding will be awarded to eligible applicants with the highest score based on the following criteria: population served (36 points), CBO Size (3 points), and Outreach Activities (12 points) for a total of 51 points.

Population Served Metrics	
36 Points Total	
In 2022, what percent of your total clients were Black/African American?	Points Possible – 5 Points
In 2022, what percent of your total clients were Hispanic or Latinx?	Points Possible – 5 Points
In 2022, what percent of your total clients are Uninsured?	Points Possible – 5 Points
In 2022, what percent of your total clients were Medi-Cal beneficiaries?	Points Possible – 5 Points
In 2022, what percent of your total clients has a language other than English as their primary language?	Points Possible – 5 Points
In 2022, what percent of your total clients had HIV?	Points Possible – 5 Points
Based on CDPH data, what proportion of the county residents with at least one dose divided by the estimated population at-risk in that county (based on methodology published by the CDC and factors in historical HIV prevalence and HIV PrEP-related data)	Points Possible – 6 Points
CBO Size	
3 Points Total	
Questions	Scored
Approximately how many prescribing health care providers are at your site(s)?	Points Possible – 3 Points
Outreach/Education Activities	

12 Points Total	
Questions	Scored
<p>Outreach/Education Activities</p> <p>Check the box next to each activity included in your proposed outreach/education activities: (check all that apply)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Collaborate with organizers of large (>100 people) gatherings and social events and other community settings to amplify public health messages to promote and administer mpox vaccination</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Develop culturally responsive outreach efforts to at least 3 of the following groups: gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men; transgender or non-binary persons; people with HIV; African-American/Black persons; or Latinx/Hispanic persons</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Utilize a media campaign to reach priority populations that provides public health messaging on mpox, including where they can get vaccinated and tested</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Remove structural and practical barriers to mpox vaccination or testing such as creating technology access, transportation and mobility access, childcare supports, and translation/interpreter services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Train community members to serve as trusted messengers and a bridge between communities and the CBO to support vaccination or testing</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Use creative approaches for non-conventional messaging and outreach outside of a medical facility (e.g., barbershops/nail salons, faith-based groups, and other settings frequented by priority populations) to promote mpox vaccination or testing at your CBO</p>	<p>Points Possible – 12 Points</p>

TENTATIVE RFA TIME SCHEDULE

EVENT	DATE
RFA Released . Available on the CDPH Website: https://cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/STI/Mpox-CBO-Grant.aspx	November 9, 2023 By 5:00 P.M.
Application Submission Deadline	November 28, 2023 By 11:59 P.M.
Notice of Intent to Award Released. Available on CDPH Website: https://cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/STI/Mpox-CBO-Grant.aspx	November 30, 2023 By 5:00 P.M.
Appeal Deadline	December 4, 2023 By 5:00 P.M.
Grant Start Date	January 1, 2024

GRANT AWARD APPEAL PROCEDURES

An Eligible Entity (EE) who has submitted an application and was not funded may file an appeal with CDPH. Appeals must state the reason, law, rule, regulation, or practice that the EE believes has been improperly applied in regard to the evaluation or selection process. There is no appeal process for applications that are submitted late or are incomplete. Appeals shall be limited to the following grounds:

- CDPH failed to correctly apply the application review process, the format requirements or evaluating the applications as specified in the RFA.
- CDPH failed to follow the methods for evaluating and scoring the applications as specified in the RFA.

Appeals must be sent by email to STDLHJContracts@cdph.ca.gov and must be received as referenced in the Tentative RFA Time Schedule.

EEs will be notified by e-mail within 15 days of the consideration of the written appeal letter.

CDPH reserves the right to award the grant when it believes that all appeals have been resolved, withdrawn, or responded to the satisfaction of CDPH.

THANK YOU

Thank you for applying to the mpox CBO Grant. CDPH appreciates your organization's commitment to administer mpox vaccine and testing.